

REGION 8 WEEKLY REPORT – November 19, 2020

Hot Topics:

Region 8 responds to letter from the Oglala Sioux Tribe regarding tribal consultation for the Dewey Burdock UIC Class III Uranium in-situ recovery permit On November 18, 2020, Region 8 responded to a letter from the Oglala Sioux Tribe. The letter explained Region 8's tribal consultation process for this permit which spanned nearly five years with 38 tribes and why it was reasonable for EPA to conclude the tribal consultation process.

MT-WY Multi-Agency Federal Leaders Virtual Call Regarding Drinking Water/Waste Water/Solid Waste in Indian Country On November 16, 2020, Region 8 hosted its fourth virtual call with leaders from multiple federal agencies regarding drinking water, wastewater, and solid waste issues in Indian country in Montana and Wyoming. Federal leaders from USDA RD, USACE, BIA (DOI/IESC), EDA, IHS, and HUD participated in the call. Draft resource templates and an initial plan to outreach to tribes were discussed. The next step will be to reach out to the Tribe's staff to gather feedback.

Region 8 Entered into an Expedited Settlement Agreement (ESA) to Resolve Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) Violations with Rio Mesa Resources Inc. in Rangely, Colorado Region 8 entered into an ESA with Rio Mesa Resources, Inc. to resolve violations of SPCC regulations. Region 8's Regional Judicial Officer issued a final order approving the ESA on November 12, 2020. Rio Mesa Resources did not have a SPCC Plan at the time of EPA's inspection. Under the ESA, Rio Mesa Resources certified that it corrected the alleged violation and agreed to pay a \$1,750 civil penalty.

Region 8 Concluded an Expedited Settlement Agreement (ESA) and Final Order to Resolve Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) Violations with Top Shelf Energy, LLC Region 8 entered into an ESA with Top Shelf Energy, LLC in Devils Lake, North Dakota to resolve violations of SPCC regulations. Region 8's Regional Judicial Officer issued a final order approving the ESA on November 12, 2020. Top Shelf Energy did not have an SPCC Plan and did not have secondary containment on its above ground storage tank. Under the ESA, Top Shelf Energy certified that it corrected the alleged violations and has agreed to pay a \$2,200 civil penalty.

CERCLA Training for Colorado School of Mines Region 8 provided CERCLA training to Colorado School of Mines students on November 17, 2020. The presentation covered the legal and scientific risk assessment aspects of CERCLA followed by a Question and Answer session.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events for the week of November 23, 2020.

Region 8 Will Participate in the Colorado Department of Agriculture "Colorado Proud Event" On December 3, 2020, Region 8's Sustainable Materials Management Coordinator will be a panelist for the "Iconic Times for Colorado Agriculture: 2020 Learnings and 2021 Futureproofing" session. Region 8 will focus on environmental concerns from consumers, food waste reduction strategies, and EPA collaboration with agriculture.

